

Song and Prayer

Year B, Pentecost 2

By Beth Barnett

The is a song and prayer using Psalm 139. Use this resource with Early Word or Prayer Times

You will need:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backing Track or Live musicians rehearsed and confident in leading Jesus knows all about me by Beth Barnett • (see lyrics • Words on screen or printed copies for one between two in your gathering.
Time required:	5 minutes

Introduction

The Psalm today explores how thoroughly God knows all of us. The Psalm affirms that God knows all about us, inside and out, everything we think or feel or do or say or experience, everywhere we go, everything that happens to us - all of this is known by God.

The writer of the Psalm is blown away by this - so no wonder all that WOW at how God knows and loves us gets turns into a psalm, a poem, a song. We don't know the tune to sing Psalm 139 to. But we do have a kind of summary song, that we do have the music to.

Let's learn this song together.

Teach 'Jesus knows all about me' with a leader who is familiar with the song singing a line, and inviting the rest of the gathering to sing that line back to them. Keep the rhythm steady throughout this process.

When you have been through both verses and the refrain, return to the beginning of the song, and sing through, adding actions.

After singing enthusiastically and robustly, pause and continue

Psalm 139 is a poem song, but also a prayer.

We have the opportunity now to weave our own prayers into this song.

The musicians will play the chorus of this song more gently - and we'll join in 'You know all - all about me'.

But we will also leave space for our prayers of thanks, for God being in our everyday happenings, and also our prayers of confession, of the thoughts and actions God has seen in us that are not right or well or fair.

So the musicians will play - we'll begin with singing the line 'God knows all, all about me' then leave some time, as the back keeps playing for you to voice your own prayers beginning 'Lord you know...[fill in your own prayer]...You know all about me'.

Eg:

Lord you know...that I had a great time at the sports carnival this week...You know all about me.

Lord you know...we have been selfish and thought of ourselves above others
...You know all about me.

Lord you know...that we are grateful for the provision of good food and drink...You know all about me.

Sing gently between prayers 'You know all, all about me'

Encourage people to use the text of Psalm 139 as a resource for their prayers as well.



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Resources

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them -- they are more than the sand;
I come to the end -- I am still with you.

Song - Jesus Knows All about me (Beth Barnett)

Jesus knows all about me
Everything I do or say he can see
He's knows all
All about me
He's knows all
All about me
Jesus knows me on the inside
There's nowhere I can run
no place I can hide
He knows all
All about me
He's knows all
All about me



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